



Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2020

Room 326, City/County Building

12:00 p.m.

Mission: The CAC exists to provide citizen input into the safety of the citizens of Lewis and Clark County, the efficient and just treatment of defendants and offenders, the protection and healing of victims, and to work toward prevention of crime and the reduction of recidivism.

1. Call to Order and Attendance

Tom Cordingley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and Carolyn Belling read the mission statement.

Members present: Tom Cordingley (Chair), Carolyn Belling (Vice Chair), Abigail J. St. Lawrence, John Wilkinson, Mike Mahoney, Moffie Funk, Teresa Charlton, Theresa Ortega, and John Lytle.

Members excused: Stephanie Ballenger-Brooks, Marshall Gingery, and Dennis Taylor.

Members absent: Gene Prendergast and Jenifer Gurski,

Others in attendance: Kellie McBride, Gloria Soja, Mike Ferriter, Mike Menahan, Melinda Reed, and Andy Hunthausen.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes and Agenda Amendments

Moffie Funk moved that approval of February 28, 2020, meeting minutes be tabled to the April 2020 meeting. Second by Mike Mahoney. Motion carried.

John Wilkinson moved to add new agenda item "Review of DOC Involved Defendants in the Detention Center", per the e-mail from Kellie McBride. Second by John Lytle. Motion carried.

3. CJS Behavioral Health Staff and Responsibilities – Kellie McBride

Kellie McBride stated that CJS currently has one full-time behavioral health therapist and one full-time behavioral health case manager working in the detention center. The plan is to have a therapist at the detention center 10 hours/day, seven days/week and the case manager working 7 am – 3 pm, Monday through Friday. CJS is currently conducting reference checks on the second therapist and hopes to offer the position next week. McBride noted that this is the first time in history that there will be a dedicated therapist in the detention center for this amount of time.

Monique Eastis, Behavioral Health Therapist, is working to recertify as a Mental Health Professional so that she will be able to complete the required mental health evaluations to do direct commits to Journey Home and the State Hospital.

McBride stated that the County is still in discussion around CRT services.

Oversight of Journey Home and Our Place has been moved to Public Health. Public Health is working diligently on a plan to reopen Journey Home.

4. (New Item) Review of DOC Involved Defendants in the Detention Center

Tom

John Wilkinson stated that to decrease the number of people in the detention center, the number of Department of Corrections involved cases must be addressed. Mark Piskolich stated that there were currently 106 people in Lewis and Clark County detention and of these, 57 had DOC involvement.

Kellie McBride clarified that Pretrial Services is partially funded by a grant from the State for the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) pilot project. PSAs are only generated on non-DOC involved defendants. Assignment to Pretrial Services is based on the PSA and judicial discretion. Assigning DOC involved defendants would result in double supervision, which is counter to national recommendations supporting least restrictive measures.

Mike Mahoney stated that DOC completes Risk and Needs Assessments and classification reports on DOC involved defendants. The numbers of people on probation and parole supervision are increasing and the level of supervision required is also increasing. Mahoney suggested that the Committee could advocate for an institutional probation and parole officer (IPPO) to be placed at each of the larger detention facilities to work with pre-trial defendants with DOC involvement.

Kellie McBride stated that this is more of a statute issue and requested that Pretrial Services be removed as a possible solution, as Pretrial Services does not have the authority or the capacity to take on pre-trial DOC. McBride supports

Moffie Funk motioned that anyone interested in working on this issue contact John Wilkinson or John Lytle. Second by John Wilkinson. Motion carried.

5. Review of Action Items for CJCC Meeting Agenda

Moffie Funk made a motion that the Committee bring Handle with Care information to the next CJCC meeting. Second by John Wilkinson. Motion carried. Moffie Funk will provide Tom Cordingley with information to present.

From February 2020 meeting: Adopted bylaws to be submitted for final approval.

6. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Theresa Ortega invited the Committee to an open house and breakfast at Our Place, 613 North Last Chance Gulch, at 7:30 am on April 7, 2020.

7. Next Meeting: April 10, 2020

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Minutes approved April 10, 2020.